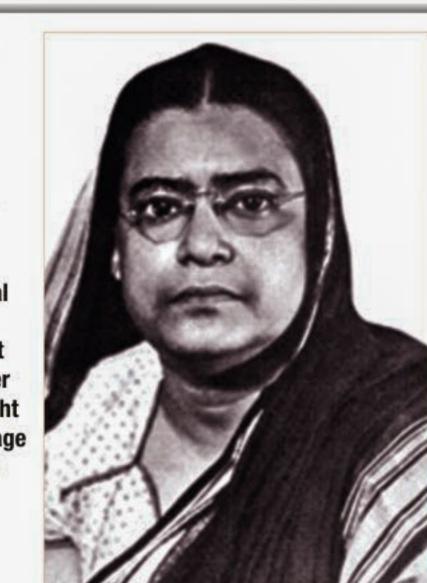


Shamsunnahar **Mahmud** (1908 1964) writer and educationist, was born at Guthuma village in Feni district. She was a feminism in Benga after the death of Roquiah Sakhawa Hossain. Her career the Bengali language at Lady Brabourne





was born on June 4 1925. Her father Nasiruddin, was a monthly Saogat she has done it all.

1960s. She is one of **Nazrul Sangee** try who popularised the genre in the whole South Asia.



woman photographer of the country. When Khanam journey, society was not so friendly towards women stepping out of the home photography, Satyajit Ray praised her and said 'Women of our countries "Begum"

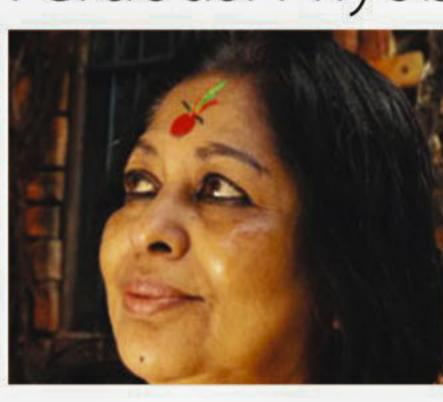


CONNECTING GIRLS, INSPIRING FUTURES



PHOTO: TASLIMA AKHTER

Ferdousi Priyobhashini sculptor & Birangana



Taslima Akhter Lima

Photographer Taslima Akhter Lima's camera has

work as both a personal agenda and a civic duty.

Bangladesh economy on the fast lane; yet they are

have played an important role in putting the

New York Times last year.

are seemingly poles apart.

issues at present.

focused on garment workers for years now. As a pho-

"Women in the Readymade Garment (RMG) sector

underprivileged. They toil from dawn to dusk on mini-

mum wages," says Lima. She has spent over four years

capturing the workers' movement for the photo story,

story, along with an interview, was published in The

"The Life and Struggle of Garment Workers". The photo

Lima also worked on a single mother during her six-

week course on photography and human rights at New

York University's Tisch School of the Arts. The course

was a part of a Magnum Foundation scholarship that

she won in 2010. During her work on a single mother

she found that the agony and emotional demands are

quite similar in societies -- New York and Dhaka -- that

"May be people won't ask too many questions

ask questions here in Dhaka. But as far as I have

about remaining single in New York. May be they will

observed, remaining single for a woman is a painful

experience both in Dhaka and in New York," says Lima.

Gathering those impressions, she is working on such

tographer and a citizen of Bangladesh, she sees her

"As a Birangana (war heroine), I firmly believe that the women who sacrificed everything for the sake of the country's independence in 1971 have only one wish to put forth; and that is all the women will live happily and stand upright with self esteem in an independent Bangladesh

"Better it will be, when there will be no need to observe the day. The patriarchal outlook must be forsaken to achieve that goal. We should never forget the timeless verse 'Bishwe ja kichhu mohan sristi chiro kolyankor, Ordhek taar koriachhey nari ordhek taar nor'

On the eve of International Women's Day, Lima

shares the common perception that a transition to

democracy in Bangladesh cannot but raise questions

about women's rights, expressing the hope that her

Administration from the University of Dhaka, Lima

studied photojournalism at Pathshala South Asian

Institute of Photography (now Media Academy) in

photography at the academy. Lima's other stories

By Jamil Mahmud

2007. At present she teaches visual anthropology and

include those on Lalon devotees and rickshaw-pullers.

project could help speed up the country's move

After completing her masters in Public

by the National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. "We have to learn to protest any oppres sion. This year's theme -- 'Connecting Girls,

Day conveys such message. "The government must recognise and honour the contributions of Biranganas of 1971. Recognition is a matter of internal emotions. We will be proud and responsibly work for the country. Though there is a list of Freedom Fighters, no list of Biranganas exists. The image of Bangladesh will rather brighten if their contributions are recognised.

"A Tagore excerpt, 'Apon bhagyo jai koribarey keno nahi dibey odhikar', always inspires me. The Pakistani cronies -- rajakar, Inspiring Futures' -- of International Women's al badr and al shams -- who didn't want the creation of Bangladesh, somehow try to demean our contributions. I, as a representa tive of all the Biranganas, want the trial of war criminals so that the pain of these unsung women are healed somewhat," -- Ferdousi Priyobhashini

Makeup Artist

implemented and women are given

On her own family, Sarah Abedin

the respect they deserve.

education for all women.

By Shah Alam Shazu

says she has four sisters, all of

whom are well educated. She also

emphasised on the necessity of

By Zahangir Alom

Sarah Abedin

Sarah Abedin has been working as a

makeup artist for three years now and

is currently a staff member at Rtv. She

is also carrying out her studies at the

Siddheswari Degree College. Her

father and sister are also makeup

Faruk is a respected senior makeup

artist. It is her relatives' works that

inspired Sarah Abedin to choose this

a good profession and wishes to be a

famous makeup artist in the future.

women's emancipation, saying that

within four walls if they were denied

Sarah pressed for all women to

unite, adding that victory can be

achieved in every field if women

decide to be organised. Snubbing

place for women, Sarah called or

other women to join the media.

Day, Sarah said that a single day's

observance would not mean any-

thing unless the day's ideals are

out claims that media is not a good

Asked how she views Women's

women would have to be confined

She is a strong believer in

freedom.

profession. Sarah considers her job as

artists, while her maternal uncle

Nargis Akter

Nargis Akter has cemented her place as one of the leading filmmakers in the country. Her debut effort "Meghla Akash" brought much acclaim for her, paving way for consecutive successful productions -- "Char Shotiner Ghor", "Megher Kole Roud", "Obujh Bou". She has also just finished shooting for the movie "Putro Jokhon Poishawala".

Nargis is against celebrating Women's Day. Calling the observance of Women's Day as "regretful", the director added that there is no logic behind having one particular day to recognise women's contributions to society, politics, labour force and most importantly, the family. Asked on what should be the greatest priority

for women, Nargis opined that economic solvency and freedom at workplaces are some of the key needs for women. Women should be allowed freedom in accordance with their needs, Nargis said, but added

that a woman smoking cigarettes does not represent emancipation. A woman is a mother who also needs to bear responsibility for many things, she added.

Asked if she feels differently, being a female

filmmaker, Nargis says just like her male counterparts she makes movies with the collaboration of a lot of people. If all women unite, a lot can be achieved, Nargis asserted.

By Shah Alam Shazu

Shahnewaz Cacoly

Shahnewaz Cacoly claimed her position in the limelight by directing Anisul Hoque's "Onek Kartik, Onek Ogrohayon". Other notable works by the director include "Hamar Lalu", "Sang Olipur", "Ujan Ponthe" and "Haat-taan".

Cacoly usually directs plays that offer something unique -- with all of her works so far bringing home great acclaims.

She graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University and also has experience as an art director in movies. "Jolrong" and "Uttorer Shur" are two films that she directed, that are awaiting release. Cacoly sees the observance of the Women's

Day as a positive trend, saying that it is a good thing that at least a day is taken to recognise women's contributions. However, the director adds that urban women have progressed much further than rural women, giving rise to the importance of all women achieving proper edu-

Asked if women are still shackled, Cacoly says it is still true for women in villages. They are confined to their families and children. However, Cacoly prefers considering women as human beings, rather than calling them by their sex. She also observed that even in this age, a family gives its consent to a boy much more easily than a

Saying that women's emancipation is essential By Shah Alam Shazu

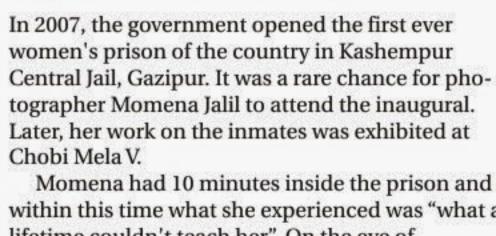
TV Play & Film director



for society, Cacoly added that hundreds of thousands of women could not have worked at garment factories, if they were not allowed freedom.

About herself, Cacoly said that her brothers created obstacles against her studying at the FFA and also against her working in TV plays, but the journey was made possible as she received constant support from her mother.

Momena Jalil Photographer



within this time what she experienced was "what a lifetime couldn't teach her". On the eve of International Women's Day, Momena shared that experience and other feministic issues as a pho-

"It was a strange feeling -- losing one's freedom and the right to live a life one is granted," says "We had 10 minutes and the guards were rush

ing us. They were some 21 women, and with some of them were children who were free but had nowhere to go, so they stayed with their mothers Although Momena worked on the inmates on a

special occasion, her main field of interest [in photography] is environment. She loves to work on experimental projects regarding the issue. She did an experimental work -- portrait photography on Dholaikhal, and another on the morgue of Dhaka Medical Hospital. Both were much appreciated. Momena shares that she considers herself as a privileged and independent individual. So when

Women's Day comes forth, she sees it as " not that important to her as other women who are fighting to establish their rights". However, she wants to see a society that upholds equal rights. Momena started her photographic career as a

the question of spirit regarding International

Staff Photographer at the daily New Age. After working there for several years, she joined Drik Picture Library. At present she is working as a freelance photographer.

By Jamil Mahmud

Beauty--much more than The beauty industry, once shrouded in obscurity, nowadays draws talents in great numbers.

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

The beauty salon sector in Bangla desh is booming, says Tahia, assis tant manager of a renowned salon for the last six years. Smartly turn out in a bright suit, she is a picture of confidence as she talks about the prospects for beauticians and the trade in Bangladesh.

The beauty industry, once shrouded in obscurity, now draws talents in great numbers as an increasingly attractive career choice. Tahia's view, there has been a radical shift in the popular perception of Bangladeshi women towards beauty and health, creating enormous op portunities for employment. What was once the domain of the affluent social groups has now permeated to the middle and even lower income groups who have become regular clients of salons.

One demographic group that seems to have taken a leading role this sector consists of individuals from the indigenous community Accepting this statement, Tahia suggests the reasons for such a trea

"Firstly, we saw Garos from Mymensingh, Modhupur, Halwa Ghat, Birishiri, Netrokona come int this profession. Then Chakmas fro Chittagong and Manpuris from Sylhet also made a beeline for the profession. One reason could be

essential during the many years it took for the industry to gain acceptance and recognition. They are also International Women's Day is an known for being highly meticulous another key success factor in this sector. Also, they have been in this

match the needs of a busy and demanding metropolis," says Tahia. While I was looking over the long list of skincare treatments available the salon, I struck up a conversation with Sobha from Mymensingh who ypifies the beauty professional "When I joined the salon I hardl

profession for generations, so they

could gradually develop their skills t

knew anything about the industry. was inept and intimidated -- you are after all taking care of something that is extremely personal and important. But soon I was trained an gradually learnt the ropes of the profession. I have been working for about eight years and my work has given me confidence, self-respec and numerous opportunities. I pays well through a handsome salary and a yearly bonus -- enoug to help me buy a small plot of land I would say it has provided me see

On the album, singer Balam said, "It

was a great opportunity working on

the talent of these young girls. I feel

privileged to be a part of this initia-

ing in a recording studio."

this project with the girls. I hope they

benefited from the experience of work-

Bappa added, "The album reflects

All major distributors and outlets of

The young women of the Adolescent

Aarong will sell the album across the

Development Programme were fea-

"Naache Gaane Number One" in 2009

out of BRAC's school for older children.

tured in the reality TV shows --

and "Meghe Dhaka Tara" in 2011.

The Adolescent Development

rity and economic freedom.' "Beauty experts are flown in from overseas at regular intervals to groom the therapists in every way starting from beauty tips to client management skills. Thus begins the

Nari: BRAC's musical

Non-government organisation BRAC is tion would continue working on

BRAC, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, in a recent Programme started in 1993, developed

releasing a musical album, featuring women's empowerment.

homage to women

members of its Adolescent

Development Programme. Containing

nine tracks, the album is a collaboration

of top musicians of the country, includ-

ing Shayan ChowdhuryArnob, Habib

Wahid, Bappa Mazumder, Balam,

Fahmida Nabi, Kona and Labik Kama

The album, titled "Nari", is being

International Women's Day, at 5pm at

song on the album relates the slogan,

"Connecting girls, inspiring the future"

released today on the occasion of

Café 33, Bailey Road, Dhaka. Every

the theme of this year's celebration

The Founder and Chairman of

speech re-affirmed that his organisa-

according to a press release.

their aptitude for hard work that was Kaniz Almas, managing director and founder of a leading beauty care

> occasion for celebration for many women in the beauty business. "We have come out of our cocoon in which we were trapped," says Shubhra, who has been a beautician for the last eight years. However, she has a reservation: "If indeed we are on equal terms with men, then how come we have reserved seats in buses or in parliament? Where is the equality? Women are more hardworking than men and so we feel we

> should get our due." Another beautician, Korobi from Tangail, says, "It is a fulfilling profession as one brings out the latent beauty in every woman. It feels really great. I never thought I would do it professionally, but here I am. Moreover, I don't feel overworked as in many other jobs because 99 percent of the workforce is women and there is an underlying sense of mutual respect and understanding." Looking around at the busy team

of smiling beauticians, there's little doubt that this profession has nurtured a whole new group of independent and confident working women. The women in turn have worked hard to give the profession credibility and a permanent home exciting ride in the profession," says in the city as well as in the suburbs.

ERRATUM

In the article "A

62nd Berlin Film

star-studded

Festival", pub-

6 issue of Star

Entertainment

name was men-

tioned as Kamar

Ahmad Simon

In the same

write-up, the

writer's designa-

tion [in the bot-

tom] was men-

tioned as "a

documentary

filmmaker". In

would respec-

tively be Gillian

Dell and "a free-

lance contribu-

tor". We deeply

regret the errors.

both cases, they

the writer's

lished in March

Star World Ekushey-er Chokh

Bipashar Otithi

at 09:05pm

Unforgettable 10:10 Tobuo Badhon 11:30 The Big Bang Theory Boishakhi TV National Geographic Musical Programme Channel Muktijudhey Nari

Seconds from Disaster Man Eater Manhunt 09:30 Classified

time. The Daily Star will not

change in the programme

BANGLAVISION **Discovery Channel** 11:05 Shokal Belar Rodd Cinebit Porikkha-Prostuti Shyamol Bangla 10:30 Dual Survival

BBC World Drama: Shurongo 12:05

Impact Asia with Mishal 10:00 The Hub with Nik Sport Today

DRAMA SERIAL

TN BANGLA 8:40pm Chand Phul Amaboshya 9:20pm Motijheel C/A

08:15pm Rupkotha

Desh TV

11:00 Rup-rupantar

aonBoishakhi TV 08:00pm Fourth Class Society BANGLAVISION 08:15pm No Problem Desh TV 08:15pm Sat Kahon Maasranga Television 09:30pm Dilur Golpo

09:50pm Dhan Shaliker

NEWS BULLETIN

News (Bangla) at 7:30am. News (English) at 10:00am, 1:00 pm, 10:00 pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at ate Night News (Bangla a 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm inglish) 11:30 pm. (To be News (English) at 6:00pm telecast on all Bangla CHANNEL-i News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 0:30 pm, 12:30 am atn Bangla NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 0:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:0

News (Bangla): 2:30 pm 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am News (Bangla):7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm 10:30pm, 1:00am m, 4:00 am

11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm,

10:40am Tarokalap Desh TV 10:30pm Desh E Golpo Maasranga Television 07:30pm Prime Issue

TALKSHOW

10:50pm Reporters Diary

01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm

ATN BANGLA 2:30am Lead News HANNELi 2:30pm Taroka Kothon 1:30pm Shawpno Orar Di oishakhi TV

11:25pm Talk of the Week

12:00am Zero Hour